

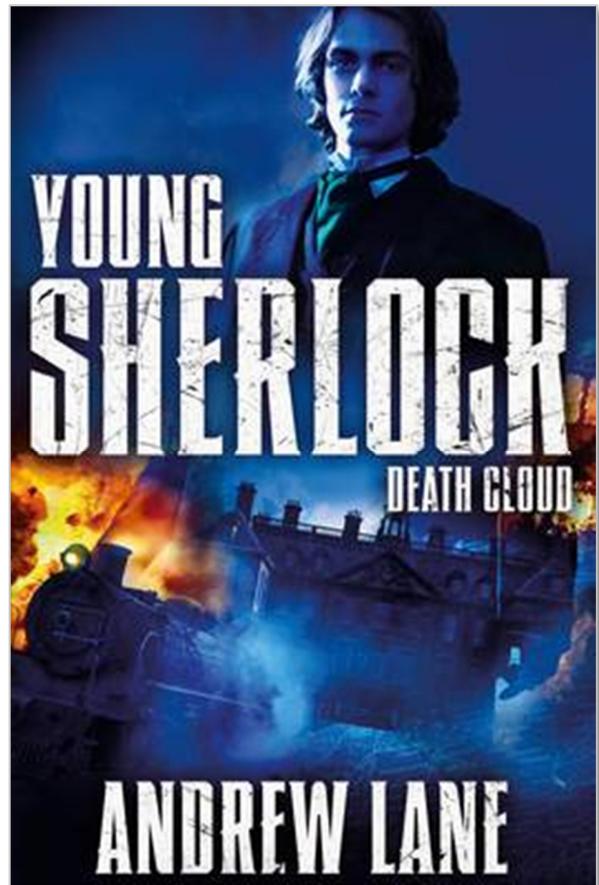
LoveReading4kids Reader reviews of Young Sherlock Holmes Book 1: Death Cloud by Andrew Lane

Below are the complete reviews, written by LoveReading4kids members.

Benjy Randall, age 10

A great all round adventure book, with lots of action. Will keep any young reader full entertained.

'Death Cloud' is the first of six amazing books in a series. When Sherlock finds out he is going to stay with an Aunt and Uncle who he has never seen before he was devastated. However he couldn't even imagine what an adventure was in store for him. Along with his friend Matty, tutor Mr Crowe and his daughter Virginia, together they travel to France and back in order to stop the evil Baron carrying out his plans to wipe out the entire British army. This is a brilliant detective book with amazing writing by Andrew Lane.



Daisy Grundy, yr 7 - Great Torrington School

*I quite like the 'Young Sherlock Holmes: Death Cloud'. It is set when the British Empire was doing well, it is also set after the Napoleonic War or around that time. **The book was set with mysteries which would all come together at an exciting climax which the ideas and questions would click together.** It also tries to establish the post of the book of which is the book telling us of his childhood.*

If I was asked to rate this book I would give it 9 out of 10 because I quite liked this book.

Phoebe Allan, age 14

*Being a BBC 'Sherlock' fan, I was excited when this book came through my front door. Having never read a 'Sherlock' book before, and having failed when trying to read Conan Doyle's works, I was intrigued by how far I would get with Andrew Lane's take on a fourteen year old Sherlock. However, this book did nothing but drag me further into loving the inquisitive character that is Sherlock Holmes. **This is a clever book that is full of suspense, puzzles and a very 'Sherlockian' way of solving them. His fearless journey is full of action and does not fail to amaze me in a way that only the incredible creation that is Sherlock Holmes can.** A serious thumbs up (and a tip of my deerstalker).*

Mukunth Kowsik, age 12

*'Young Sherlock - Death Cloud' is a suspense-filled adventure themed book. It follows the story of Sherlock Holmes as a young lad who is taken away from school due to business in India to do with his father. His brother Mycroft Holmes can't look after him so he is sent to live with his relatives. But when he sees a body with bubbles and a mysterious gas leaving the victim each time and finds out about a baron who might supposedly be behind all the crimes, he is dragged into a secret and dangerous world of villains and crime. Can Sherlock unravel the mystery or will he end up like one of the victims? When I began reading this book, I knew instantly that I would love it as it was my favourite genre and I was right. The book started with the perfect mystery like Arthur Conan Doyle's originals and on the way added humour as well. I love the way the author has created a great storyline. **This book is so good that you simply will not put it down. It is Sherlock Holmes made more easier to understand and to be enjoyed by teenagers.** Ten out of ten.*

Elenie Williams, age 11

'Young Sherlock; Death Cloud' is a gripping adventure story that is so tense it will make you not want to put it down. Why wouldn't you pick it up?

This book is about when Sherlock Holmes goes to stay with his aunt and uncle for the holidays, but soon after he arrives he discovers two dead bodies both supposedly killed in the same way. They also both have mysterious yellow powder on their clothes; Sherlock is convinced this stuff has something to do

with how they both died but no one will listen to him, not even his older brother (Mycroft) is interested. But it is hard to send post to him with Mrs Eglantine (a servant of his aunt and uncle) snooping around, so he decides to do something about it himself. Sherlock Holmes is a fearless character but what makes me like him is how he is not perfect and is not hugely popular at school which shows that you do not have to be popular to be a hero or heroine. There was nothing I disliked about this book and found it gripping from start to finish and on top of this the cover is stunning. Who wouldn't want to pick up this book and read it?

Jenny Bridgeman, age 9

Cracking thriller that re-introduces a classic character to a modern day audience!

Jenny is a big fan of mystery stories and has read a few modern characters like Nancy Drew and Ruby Redfort so it seemed natural to try her with Sherlock Holmes. She couldn't get into the original stories so this was a perfect choice to introduce her to the world's best known detective. She read it at breakneck speed and took it everywhere with her! The books seem aimed at a male audience based on the cover, however this didn't detract her and now she is trying the original Holmes again.

Ella Hollingshead, age 13

Suspense, mystery, criminals, detectives- this book is packed full of such excitement. Set in an English town, 'Young Sherlock' looks set to be an exciting series, I can't wait to read the next book!

'Death Cloud' is the first in the series of 'Young Sherlock'. This striking book is set in a place called Farnham in England where fourteen year old Sherlock discovers a pustule covered body with what seems like a cloud rising from it. This discovery follows an earlier find with similar symptoms by someone else.

As the mystery unravels Sherlock meets new friends and also enemies. Sherlock and his group of friends find themselves in the heart of a terrifying plot that holds Britain's future in its grasp.

My favourite part was when Sherlock finds himself locked in a burning warehouse and he has to use all his logical skills to ensure he gets out alive.

A fantastic read packed full of non stop action, cunning puzzles, peculiar murders, sinister crooks and best of all suspense.

Jemma Rubens, age 10

This book is the first in a six part series about young Sherlock Holmes. He is accompanied throughout by his tutor, his urchin friend and the tutor's daughter.

In my opinion, the mystery should have continued further into the book. As the solution was revealed half way through the novel, it meant that the second half was largely action based.

I hope that the characterisation of Sherlock develops over the series: he made few deductions (most of which were under the instructions of his teacher) and he has not yet evolved into the highly intelligent and quick-witted man he will become.

I would recommend this book to 8-10 year olds, who enjoy detective novels, but not necessarily the 'Sherlock Holmes' novels, and the detailed analysis that accompanies them.

Sam Harper, age 10

A thrilling mystery, perfect for anyone who likes solving crimes. This is a great introduction to the worlds most famous detective.

Fourteen year old Sherlock is not happy about spending the summer with his Aunt Anna and Uncle Sherrinford. He doesn't like their creepy housekeeper Mrs Eglentine and finds it all a bit boring. He's not bored for long though as he discovers that there's been a body found in the village which was covered in mysterious boils. He is soon busy investigating with his new friend Matty but things take a sinister turn when Sherlock and his tutor, Amyus Crowe, find a second body in the woods. Sherlock discovers a yellow powder in the man's pockets and this leads him to a barn where he overhears men discussing the strange powder and the Baron, the man who's in charge. Sherlock barely escapes with his life when they set fire to the barn to destroy the evidence. Sherlock is alone, in danger and doesn't know who he can trust but this is just the beginning of his adventure and the puzzles he must solve. He is drawn to London's docklands but will he find the answers there, can the beautiful Virginia help and what have the bees got to do with it?

*'Death Cloud', the first in the 'Young Sherlock' series, is **a thrilling mystery, perfect for anyone who likes solving crimes.** The plot developed quite slowly which gave me time to consider who could be behind the murders and I loved the way it was set in the 1860's while Sherlock was still at school. A*

great introduction to the worlds most famous detective.

Rose Heathcote, age 15

A real page turning fast-paced adventure story with plenty of action scenes and interesting characters. A must read for older teenagers who can keep up with a more complex story-line.

*Young Sherlock Holmes has to stay with his Aunt and Uncle because his dad is sent away to India and his mother is ill. Amyus Crowe is employed to tutor Sherlock while he is living with his relatives and it's his mentoring that helps to form Sherlock as we know him today. As a big fan of 'Sherlock Holmes' I could see how his character as a teenage is starting to develop to the characteristics he has as an adult. The adventure begins when Sherlock finds a body covered in boils in the wood, this leads you into a fast paced action story. The book gets you so involved in the story-line you automatically try to solve the mystery, just like a real detective. I would give this book 5 stars ***** and I would definitely recommend it to my friends and family, a must read in which you won't be disappointed with.*

Josh Hall, age 14

Great plot...a book you will want to read again.

When 14yr old Sherlock discovers a gruesome dead body he embarks on an amazing journey that takes him from the quiet countryside to London Docks, chasing down the head of a plot that could devastate Britain forever.

A very good book but would have been much better if there was a bit more action in places. However, I really liked how Lane created the plot, as it was very cleverly well done. One I would read again.

Danielle Wild, age 12

Thomas Cowley School

'Young Sherlock' is an interesting book. Sometimes it is very adventurous and then other times strange things happen. It can be funny some of the things he does and says.

Due to the story line I would highly recommend it to people who don't get bored of books easily as there are several things happening together at some points.

Personally **I really enjoyed this book as I like books that are interesting and exciting not just a basic story line.** I would rate this book 8/10.

If you read this book I hope you enjoy it as it is a really good book.

Callum Broomfield, age 9

*This is a good book, although I found the start was a bit slow moving, making it difficult to get into. The middle of the book got much more exciting making it a page turner. **I would recommend buying this book, it is fast paced, in particular towards the end and is packed with vivid descriptions e.g. the pustule covered body!** It would suit a sound reader aged 10 and above who enjoys adventure and mystery.*

James Harrison, age 11

I read this a long time ago but I really enjoyed the book as well as the series. I absolutely loved the characters and it was really really well written. The excitement never stopped. I liked Angus Crowe and Matty the most as well as Mrs. Eglantine who is so mysterious you always wonder why she is the housekeeper.

*The villains are really interesting too with a lair that really suited them. It is impossible to find a fault with it. **I really hope a whole lot more of Young Sherlock books come out, so, all-in-all I say: 'Go Young Sherlock!'***

Louis Desforges, age 13

Interesting and exciting read which is a great introduction to the Young Sherlock Holmes series. I would recommend it to readers who enjoy action and adventure stories.

I found this book an interesting and exciting read because it introduces you to Sherlock as well as most of the other main characters from the series. I would definitely recommend it to other readers who enjoy action and adventure stories such as 'The Young James Bond' books. It is very well written; the style is flowing and it makes you want to read on. I particularly liked the descriptive writing as it is almost cinematic; you can really picture the scenes which makes the story really come to life. If I had to rate it out of 10, I would give it 7.5.

Liam, age 12

This book was very well written by a very good author who I was interested in. When I had finished reading it, I instantly needed to read the next book in the series.

'Young Sherlock Holmes' was a very good read. It even taught me some very important rules of life and writing skills. It highlighted the importance of logical thinking and getting something done. If it needs doing then get it done and ensure you aim high. I really enjoyed this book and was extremely impressed by the author's writing skills. I don't think you could be disappointed by this book, especially if you like detective stories. This was the first Sherlock book I had EVER read and although I am not typically a detective story fan, I now want to read the whole series. This book was gripping from start to finish and even though it was confusing at times I was never entirely lost. Work through the confusion and you will work it out!